

V. REMARKS

Claims 1 and 6 are provisionally rejected on the grounds of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of co-pending Application No. 10/697,004. The Office Action asserts that, although that conflicting claims are not identical, claim 1 of the present application is merely an obvious variation of claim 1 of the co-pending application. For reasons discussed below, it is respectfully submitted that the obviousness-type double patenting rejection can no longer be supported as a result of amending claims 1 and 6. Because of these amendments, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 6 of the present application can no longer be considered an obvious variation of claim 1 of the co-pending application.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Muir et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0192090). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Muir teaches a gaming machine display that includes a game playing arrangement mountable in a cabinet of a gaming machine and an electronically controlled display element overlying the game playing arrangement, in use, so that, depending on a state of the display element, the game playing arrangement is visible through the display element. The game playing arrangement has a mechanical, symbol-carrying arrangement. The symbol-carrying arrangement includes a set of rotatable mechanical reels with a plurality of symbols being arranged on an outer periphery of each reel. The display element has a display screen overlying the game playing arrangement. The display screen is a multi-layered structure and includes a monitor on which images are to be displayed. The monitor overlies a shutter mechanism.

Claim 1, as amended, is directed to a gaming machine that includes game result display means for displaying a game result thereon with the game result including a plurality of game result symbols and beneficial state generating means for generating a

beneficial state for a player when a predetermined game result is displayed on the game result display means. Claim 1 recites that the game result display means includes first display means and second display means arranged in front of a display area of the first display means when seen from a front side of the gaming machine and the second display means conducts a demonstration display in which a background thereof is displayed in a dark color so that the game result on the first display means is difficult to be seen and light transmitting symbols are variably displayed in the background, after the game result is displayed on the first display means. Further, claim 1 recites that at least one light transmitting symbol includes a light transmittable portion and variably moves about the second display means. Claim 1 further recites that a part of at least one game result symbol on the first display means is seen only through the light transmittable portion of the at least one light transmitting symbol when the light transmittable portion of the at least one light transmitting symbol variably moving about the second display means overlies the at least one game result symbol.

It is respectfully submitted that the rejection is improper because the applied art fails to teach each and every element of claim 1 as amended. Specifically, it is respectfully submitted that the applied art fails to teach at least one light transmitting symbol that includes a light transmittable portion and variably moves about the second display means. Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that the applied art also fails to teach that a part of at least one game result symbol on the first display means is seen only through the light transmittable portion of the at least one light transmitting symbol when the light transmittable portion of the at least one light transmitting symbol variably moving about the second display means overlies the at least one game result symbol. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is allowable over the applied art.

Claim 6, as amended, is directed to a gaming machine that includes game result display means for displaying a game result thereon with the game result including a plurality of game result symbols and beneficial state generating means for generating a beneficial state for a player when a predetermined game result is displayed on the game result display means. Claim 6 recites that the game result display means

includes first display means and second display means arranged in front of a display area of the first display means when seen from a front side of the gaming machine and the second display means conducts demonstration display in which a background thereof is displayed in dark color so that the game result on the first display means is not seen and light transmitting symbols are variably displayed in the background, after the game result is displayed on the first display means. Additionally, claim 6 recites that at least one light transmitting symbol includes a light transmittable portion and variably moves about the second display means. Claim 6 further recites that a part of the at least one game result symbol on the first display means is seen only through the light transmittable portion of the at least one light transmitting symbol when the light transmittable portion of the at least one light transmitting symbol variably moving about the second display means overlies the at least one game result symbol.

As argued for claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that that the rejection is improper because the applied art fails to teach each and every element of claim 6 as amended. Specifically, it is respectfully submitted that the applied art fails to teach at least one light transmitting symbol that includes a light transmittable portion and variably moves about the second display means. Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that the applied art also fails to teach that a part of at least one game result symbol on the first display means is seen only through the light transmittable portion of the at least one light transmitting symbol when the light transmittable portion of the at least one light transmitting symbol variably moving about the second display means overlies the at least one game result symbol. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that claim 6 is allowable over the applied art.

Claims 2-5 depend from claim 1 and includes all of the features of claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are allowable at least for the reason claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features they recite.

It is respectfully submitted that the newly-added features of claims 1 and 6 are disclosed in paragraphs [0068] in the specification and Figure 10.

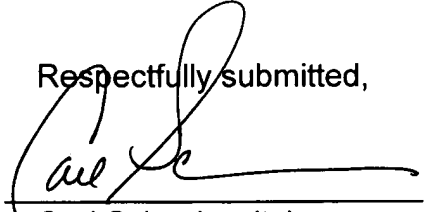
Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are believed to be in condition for allowance over the prior art of record. Therefore, this Amendment is believed to be a complete response to the outstanding Office Action. Further, Applicants assert that there are also reasons other than those set forth above why the pending claims are patentable. Applicants hereby reserve the right to set forth further arguments and remarks supporting the patentability of their claims, including the separate patentability of the dependent claims not explicitly addressed herein, in future papers.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure(s): Amendment Transmittal
 Petition for Extension of Time (months)

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